



## ***NEWS RELEASE***

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest Service  
Salmon - Challis  
National Forest  
50 Hwy 93 South  
Salmon, Idaho  
83467

---

**Contact: Kent Fuellenbach**

### **North Zone Prescribed Burning**

**October 23, 2008** – The North Zone Fire Management Staff will be conducting prescribed burning on the Moyer-Salt-Topps Project this Fall. These projects lie within the Panther Creek drainage on the Salmon-Cobalt Ranger District and the Porphry Creek Drainage on the Salmon-Colbalt Ranger District.

If conditions are favorable burning could begin as early as the week of October 27<sup>th</sup>. Smoke may be visible from Salmon, Cobalt, Williams Creek Summit, Meyers Cove and possibly parts of southwest Montana during the burning. The majority of the smoke is expected to drift northwest with some settling in the Salmon River and Panther Creek Canyons in the evenings.

The objective of the project is to reduce fuels on 1050 acres within the project areas. The area will not be blackened completely, in fact the intent is to thin out the dense areas of smaller, young trees; remove some of the duff and forest litter; and leave the large trees and riparian areas as they are. In addition some of the prescribed burn units have objectives of maintaining Historic Ponderosa Pine Forest. By reducing the fuels under controlled circumstances the Forest Service can decrease the likelihood of a large devastating wildfire to occur in this area.

The burning will be accomplished by personnel using drip troches and aerial ignition. The projects are expected to take from 8-12 days to complete.

If you have any questions or concerns about this project please contact Ken Bell, Assistant Zone Fire Management Officer, 865-2713.

###